

**First Adolescent Substance Abuse Conference:  
“Confronting Social Barriers in Adolescence”**

**Conference Session Information**

**1. Length of Workshop:** 90 minutes

**2. Workshop Title:** **How do we Reduce Juvenile Recidivism: A look into research-based best practice?**

**3. Workshop Description:**

Are everyday juvenile justice treatment programs working to reduce recidivism? Learn how the Standardized Program Evaluation Protocol (SPEP) evaluates programs against research-based best practice. Based on Dr. Mark Lipsey’s (Director of the Center for Evaluation Research and Methodology at the Vanderbilt Institute for Public Policy Studies) meta-analysis, the SPEP highlights program characteristics necessary to reduce recidivism. In addition to assessing a program’s effectiveness, the SPEP also identifies specific improvement options to boost recidivism reduction.

**4. Training/Learning Objectives:**

- a. Understand program evaluation including different methods of approach
- b. Define SPEP – development and utilization
- c. Understand program improvements
- d. Identify the SPEP’s impact on reducing recidivism

**5. Faculty Information:**

**Stacia Nowinski**, Program Manager; Juvenile Justice Services Division  
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**Jeanne Brandner**, Program Specialist; Juvenile Justice Services Division  
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